

**MINUTES OF THE
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008

At a meeting of the **Planning and Economic Development Committee**, held Tuesday, March 11, 2008, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Vosburg-Chair, Brdak, Brown, Camphous-Peterson, DeSaele, DiMaria, Drolet, Duzyj, Gielegthem, Haggerty, Mijac, Rengert, Roberts and Crouchman (ex-officio).

Other Commissioners Also Present:

Commissioner Bruley
Commissioner Joan Flynn
Commissioner Slinde

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Vosburg called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Mijac, supported by Rengert, to adopt the agenda, as amended (to include item #3A). **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by Rengert, to approve the February 5, 2008 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING RELEVAR HOME CARE AS MI-SBTDC "BEST SMALL BUSINESS – MAIN STREET USA" FOR 2007

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY HAGGERTY, SUPPORTED BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING RELEVAR HOME CARE AS MI-SBTDC "BEST SMALL BUSINESS – MAIN STREET USA" FOR 2007 (**OFFERED BY VOSBURG AND BRULEY**).

Commissioner Bruley and Chair Vosburg presented a resolution on behalf of the Board of Commissioners to Ms. Misty Delegato, Founder, Releva Home Care.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

REPORT ON MACOMB COUNTY 2007 BUSINESS SUCCESSES

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was distributed.

Mr. Robert Tess gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, Macomb County Economic Development Investment Update. Key topics covered included: 2007 Investment Results (Total Investment: \$76,417,166, Jobs Retained: 1,266, Jobs Created: 633) and 2007 Select Business Investment Clients. After his presentation, he reported on an early 2008 success. General Dynamics is planning an investment of \$6 million in Shelby Township creating 200 jobs and a \$3 million investment in Sterling Heights creating 100 jobs.

A brief discussion ensued with Mr. Tess about marketing Brownfield sites.

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to receive and file the report from the Planning and Economic Development Department on its 2007 Business Successes. **The Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATION FROM FOCUS MACOMB

A 16-page booklet entitled, Focus Macomb 2007 Annual Report was distributed.

Mr. Cassin stated that these prominent leaders of our community have donated countless hours of their time to help the county and to help the department in making several recommendations for economic development that have led to the successes that Mr. Tess just spoke of. He spoke about some of the things that have been accomplished based on Focus Macomb's recommendations.

Mr. Donald Torline, Focus Macomb Executive Co-Chair and President of Baker College of Clinton Township led the presentation. He thanked numerous named individuals for their hard work and effort. He said that the Co-Chairs from each committee will present today.

Mr. Rick Kincaid presented on Focus Macomb's Business Development Committee (pages 4 and 5). Ms. Barbara Rossmann presented on Focus Macomb's Education & Workforce Committee (pages 6 and 7). Ms. Joie West and Ms. Susan Murphy presented on Focus Macomb's Health Committee (pages 8 and 9). Ms. Karen Parenteau presented on Focus Macomb's Quality of Life Committee (pages 10 and 11). Mr. Anthony Viviano presented on Focus Macomb's Transportation Committee (pages 12 and 13).

After the presentations, Mr. Roy Rose, Focus Macomb Executive Co-Chair and President

of Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick thanked the Board of Commissioners for their continued support throughout this effort. He also thanked numerous named individuals for their hard work and effort. Lastly, he informed commissioners that Mr. Torline is going to be stepping down.

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to receive and file the 2007 Report from Focus Macomb.

Commissioners directed numerous questions to the Co-Chairs of the Business Development Committee, Education & Workforce Committee, Health Committee, Quality of Life Committee, and Transportation Committee. Commissioners thanked the members of Focus Macomb and the Planning and Economic Development (PED) Department for their hard work, effort, hours of dedication, and for participating in a very worthwhile endeavor.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

Committee recessed at 10:50 a.m.

Committee reconvened 11 a.m.

PRESENTATION FROM MDOT ON DETROIT RIVER INTERNATIONAL CROSSING STUDY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was distributed.

The following individuals were in attendance: Mr. Dave Wresinski, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Administrator of the Project Planning Division. Mr. Mohammed Alghurabi, Project Manager for the Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) Study. Mr. Dru Buckner, Manager of the Macomb County Transportation Service Center.

Referring to pages 4 and 5 of the handout, Mr. Wresinski presented on the following slides: Existing Detroit River International Crossings, The Business of Borders, Forecasts Indicate by 2035, and Travel Demand vs. Capacity: Combined Detroit River Crossings. During his presentation, he spoke about the border crossings having finite capacity and aging infrastructure.

Mr. Alghurabi gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, DRIC Study – MDOT – Draft Environmental Impact Statement / Section 4(f) Evaluation. He selectively highlighted the following key slides: What is the DRIC Study, DRIC is a Bi-National Undertaking, Purpose of DRIC Project, Need for Project, Border Crossing System Components, Where We Are At... Environmental Impact Statement Process, and Area of Analysis for Crossing System.

Mr. Alghurabi informed commissioners of two very important public hearings coming up on March 18th and 19th in the Southwest Detroit area. Mr. Wresinski overviewed their

anticipated schedule for the Environmental Impact Statement.

MOTION

A motion was made by Haggerty, supported by Rengert, to receive and file the presentation from MDOT on the Detroit River International Crossing Study Draft - Environmental Impact Statement.

Numerous questions were directed to Mr. Alghurabi and Mr. Wresinski pertaining to the slide on page 7 entitled, Area of Analysis for Crossing System and the slide on page 10 entitled, Expected Relocations with DRIC. During discussion, Mr. Alghurabi referred to page 43 of the Executive Summary and noted that probably 60% of the traffic will shift from the Ambassador Bridge into the new crossing. Another topic discussed was the Homeland Security aspect of this.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATION ON DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was distributed.

Mr. Tess gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, Macomb County Economic Development Strategic Plan Summary. Key topics covered included: Department of Planning and Economic Development Organizational Structure, Economic Development Services Group Staff, Mission Statement, Macomb County Economic Development Strategy, Targeted Industries, and Business Attraction.

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Roberts, to receive and file the presentation on the Planning and Economic Development Department's Strategic Economic Development Plan.

A discussion ensued with Mr. Cassin about what processes they use to communicate success stories about business attraction.

A discussion ensued with Mr. Cassin about the Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC). Mr. Cassin said that staff is setting up meetings with them on a monthly basis. They are going to host them for a luncheon and talk about how they can begin to work more closely with each other. Chair Vosburg noted that the luncheon with PTAC will be held on Thursday, March 27th and commissioners should call the PED Department if they plan to attend.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH BIRCHLER-ARROYO ASSOCIATES FOR \$26,250 FOR CONSULTING SERVICES TO DEVELOP A MACOMB COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Haggerty, to approve the Agreement with Birchler-Arroyo Associates for \$26,250 for consulting services to develop a Macomb County Development Certification Program. Funding is available in the Planning and Economic Development Department's Economic Development Account; **and forward to the Budget Committee. The Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATION ON MACOMB COUNTY DIVERSITY BROCHURES

MOTION

A motion was made by Brown, supported by Haggerty, to receive and file the presentation on Macomb County Diversity Brochures.

Mr. John Paul Rea referred to information that was provided in committee packets and gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, Diversity Awareness + Understanding. Key topics covered included: Project Overview, Why Explore Diversity and Culture, Project Goals and Objectives, Exploring Diversity, Exploring Culture, Project Setup, Current Partners, and Conclusion.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING M-29 AS A HERITAGE ROUTE

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BRDAK, SUPPORTED BY HAGGERTY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING M-29 AS A HERITAGE ROUTE (**OFFERED BY VOSBURG AND BRDAK**). **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chair Vosburg asked Mr. Cassin if he had anything to say that has not already been said. Mr. Cassin said no, but appreciated the opportunity. He noted that Mr. John Paul Rea who just spoke was one of their interns a few summers ago and is now a full-time staff member. He appreciates his involvement.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Vosburg adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

**Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter**